

In the Claims

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1 1. [Currently amended] Method for processing a client
2 session request received at a server, comprising the steps
3 of:

4 negotiating environment parameters for establishing a
5 connection-oriented connection of said server with said
6 client;

7 said server inviting said client to submit user
8 variables;

9 responsive to receiving a user variable requesting a
10 custom confirmation record received at said server from
11 said client, said server sending to said client a
12 confirmation record and custom record data for enabling
13 said client to engage in subsequent programmable
14 negotiations directly with said server.

1 2. [Original] The method of claim 1, said negotiating,

2 inviting, and sending steps executing within the application
3 layer of a TCP/IP protocol stack.

1 3. [Original] The method of claim 1, further
2 comprising the step responsive to a user variable requesting
3 a confirmation record, sending to said client a confirmation
4 record without said custom record data.

1 4. [Original] The method of claim 1, said confirmation
2 record including a field defining a pass through data
3 length, said pass through data including said confirmation
4 record and said custom record data.

1 5. [Original] The method of claim 1, further
2 comprising the step of appending said custom record data to
3 said confirmation record.

1 6. [Original] The method of claim 1, said request
2 being for a default custom confirmation record, and further
3 comprising the step of sending to said client default data
4 in said custom record data.

1 7. [Original] The method of claim 1, said request
2 being for a defined custom confirmation record, said request

3 including a list of one or more predefined information
4 items, further comprising the step of sending to said client
5 defined data in said custom record data.

1 8. [Original] The method of claim 7, said sending step
2 including executing a customer defined exit program on said
3 list to generate said defined data.

1 9. [Original] The method of claim 4, further
2 comprising the step of providing in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying a device allocated by a host server.

1 10. [Original] The method of claim 4, further
2 comprising the step of providing in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying a terminal or printer device allocated
4 by a host server.

1 11. [Original] The method of claim 4, further
2 comprising the step of providing in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying an associated device linked to a current
4 session by a host.

1 12. [Original] The method of claim 4, further
2 comprising the step of providing in said custom record data

3 indicia identifying a physical location for receiving
4 output.

1 13. [Original] The method of claim 4, further
2 comprising the step of providing in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying system security level and password
4 encryption requirements.

1 14. [Original] The method of claim 4, further
2 comprising the step of providing in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying another device for retrying a rejected
4 request.

1 15. [Original] The method of claim 4, further
2 comprising the step of providing in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying a reason for a failed auto-signon
4 request.

1 16. [Original] The method of claim 4, further
2 comprising the step of providing in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying a reason for denial of session
4 connection request upon system overload and redirection to
5 an alternate time or host.

1 17. [Original] The method of claim 4, further
2 comprising the step of providing in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying custom information for interpretation by
4 said client.

1 18. [Currently amended] A client/server system, comprising:

2 a custom confirmation record;

3 a user exit program running on said server;

4 said client operating in conjunction with said user
5 exit program for requesting said custom confirmation
6 record from said server, and responsive thereto for
7 engaging in subsequent client/server negotiations.

1 19. [Original] The system of claim 18, said client
2 being a Telnet client.

1 20. [Original] The system of claim 18, further
2 comprising:

3 said client being selectively operable for negotiating

4 a send-custom-confirmation-record with a 'yes', 'no' or
5 defined data value; and

6 said user exit interpret said data value and sending
7 default or defined information back to said client in
8 said custom confirmation record.

1 21. [Original] The system of claim 20, said custom
2 confirmation record containing diagnostic information
3 provided by said server along with custom information
4 provided by said user exit program.

1 22. [Original] The system of claim 21, said custom
2 information being provided by user exit programs executing
3 in said server and said client.

1 23. [Currently amended] A method for operating a client to
2 establish a network connection with a server, comprising the
3 steps of:

4 negotiating environment parameters for establishing a
5 connection-oriented connection with said server;

6 said parameters including a request for said server to

7 provide a custom confirmation record; and
8 responsive to said request, receiving said confirmation
9 record at said client and engaging in subsequent
10 programmable negotiations directly with said server.

1 24. [Original] The method of claim 23, said custom
2 confirmation record including return code, system name,
3 device name and custom data.

1 25. [Original] The method of claim 24, further
2 comprising the steps of:

3 operating said server to request a custom information
4 record from said client.

1 26. [Original] The method of claim 25, said request
2 comprising an invitation to said client from said server to
3 respond with all environment variables.

1 27. [Original] The method of claim 26, said client
2 responding to said invitation by returning a custom
3 information record as part of said environment variables.

1 28. [Original] The method of claim 27, said client
2 responding to said invitation with a request that said
3 server return to said client a custom confirmation record.

1 29. [Original] The method of claim 28, further the
2 steps of

3 operating an exit program to interpret the value in
4 said custom information record to selectively return a
5 custom confirmation record response.

1 30. [Original] The method of claim 28, further
2 comprising the steps of specifying in said custom
3 confirmation record a list of custom fields to be returned
4 by said server.

1 31. [Original] The method of claim 28, further
2 comprising the steps of specifying in said custom
3 confirmation record unstructured data for subsequent parsing
4 and processing by said server, an exit program, or an
5 independent job.

1 32. [Currently amended] Method for operating a client to
2 establish a network connection with a server, comprising the

3 steps of:

4 negotiating environment parameters for establishing a
5 connection-oriented connection with said server;

6 receiving from said server an invitation to submit user
7 variables;

8 responsive to sending to said server a user variable
9 requesting a custom confirmation record, receiving at
10 said client from said server a confirmation record and
11 custom record data for enabling said client to engage
12 in subsequent negotiations directly with said server.

1 33. [Original] The method of claim 32, said
2 negotiating, inviting, and sending steps executing within
3 the application layer of a TCP/IP protocol stack.

1 34. [Original] The method of claim 32, further
2 comprising the step responsive to said invitation to submit
3 user variables, requesting a confirmation record, and
4 responsive thereto receiving from said server a confirmation
5 record without said custom record data.

1 35. [Original] The method of claim 32, said
2 confirmation record including a field defining a pass
3 through data length, said pass through data including said
4 confirmation record and said custom record data.

1 36. [Original] The method of claim 32, further
2 comprising the step of receiving said custom record data
3 appended to said confirmation record.

1 37. [Original] The method of claim 32, said request
2 being for a default custom confirmation record, and further
3 comprising the step of receiving from said server, default
4 data in said custom record data.

1 38. [Original] The method of claim 32, said request
2 being for a defined custom confirmation record, said request
3 including a list of one or more predefined information
4 items, further comprising the step of receiving from said
5 server, client defined data in said custom record data.

1 39. [Original] The method of claim 38, further
2 including the step of providing to said server a customer
3 defined exit program for parsing said list to generate said
4 defined data.

1 40. [Original] The method of claim 35, further
2 comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying a device allocated by a host server.

1 41. [Original] The method of claim 35, further
2 comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying a terminal or printer device allocated
4 by a host server.

1 42. [Original] The method of claim 35, further
2 comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying an associated device linked to a current
4 session by a host.

1 43. [Original] The method of claim 35, further
2 comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying a physical location for receiving
4 output.

1 44. [Original] The method of claim 35, further
2 comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying system security level and password
4 encryption requirements.

1 45. [Original] The method of claim 35, further
2 comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying another device for retrying a rejected
4 request.

1 46. [Original] The method of claim 35, further
2 comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying a reason for a failed auto-signon
4 request.

1 47. [Original] The method of claim 35, further
2 comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying a reason for denial of session
4 connection request upon system overload and redirection to
5 an alternate time or host.

1 48. [Original] The method of claim 35, further
2 comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data
3 indicia identifying custom information for interpretation by
4 said client.

1 49. [Currently amended] A client system for establishing a
2 network connection with a server, comprising:

3 a first logic element for negotiating environment
4 parameters for establishing a connection-oriented
5 connection with said server;

6 said parameters including a request for said server to
7 provide a custom confirmation record to said client;
8 and

9 a second logic element responsive to said request, for
10 receiving said confirmation record for enabling said
11 client to engage in subsequent programmable
12 negotiations with said server.

1 50. [Original] The system of claim 49, said custom
2 confirmation record including return code, system name,
3 device name and custom data.

1 51. [Original] The system of claim 50, further
2 comprising:

3 a third logic element for operating said server to
4 request a custom information record from said client.

1 52. [Original] The system of claim 51, said request

2 comprising an invitation to said client from said server to
3 respond with all environment variables.

1 53. [Original] The system of claim 52, said client
2 further comprising a fourth logic element for responding to
3 said invitation by returning a custom information record as
4 part of said environment variables.

1 54. [Original] The system of claim 53, said client
2 further comprising a fifth logic element for responding to
3 said invitation with a request that said server return to
4 said client a custom confirmation record.

1 55. [Original] The system of claim 54, said server
2 further comprising an exit program for interpreting the
3 value in said custom information record to selectively
4 return a custom confirmation record response.

1 56. [Original] The system of claim 54, further
2 comprising a logic element for specifying a list of custom
3 fields to be returned by said server in said custom
4 confirmation record.

5 57. [Original] The system of claim 54, further

6 comprising a logic element for specifying in said custom
7 confirmation record unstructured data for subsequent parsing
8 and processing by said server, an exit program, or an
9 independent job.

1 58. [Currently amended] System for processing a client
2 session request, comprising:

3 a logic element for negotiating environment parameters
4 for establishing a connection-oriented connection with
5 said client and inviting said client to submit user
6 variables; and

7 an exit program responsive to receiving a user variable
8 from said client requesting a custom confirmation
9 record for sending to said client a confirmation record
10 and custom record data for enabling said client to
11 engage in subsequent programmable negotiations directly
12 with said server.

1 59. [Original] The system of claim 58, further
2 comprising a TCP/IP protocol stack including within an
3 application layer said exit program generating said custom
4 record data.

1 60. [Original] The system of claim 58, said logic
2 element further operable responsive to a user variable
3 requesting a confirmation record for sending to said client
4 a confirmation record without said custom record data.

1 61. [Original] The system of claim 58, said
2 confirmation record including a field defining a pass
3 through data length, said pass through data including said
4 confirmation record and said custom record data.

1 62. [Original] The system of claim 58, said logic
2 element further operable for appending said custom record
3 data to said confirmation record.

1 63. [Currently amended] System for operating a client to
2 establish a network connection with a server, comprising:

3 a first logic element for negotiating environment
4 parameters for establishing a connection-oriented
5 connection with said server and for receiving from said
6 server an invitation to submit user variables;

7 a second logic element responsive to sending to said

8 server a user variable requesting a custom confirmation
9 record for receiving from said server a confirmation
10 record and custom record data for enabling said client
11 to engage in subsequent programmable negotiations
12 directly with said server.

1 64. [Original] The system of claim 63, further
2 comprising a TCP/IP protocol stack including an application
3 layer within which said logic elements execute.

1 65. [Original] The system of claim 63, further
2 comprising the step responsive to said invitation to submit
3 user variables, requesting a confirmation record, and
4 responsive thereto receiving from said server a confirmation
5 record without said custom record data.

1 66. [Original] The system of claim 63, said
2 confirmation record including a field defining a pass
3 through data length, said pass through data including said
4 confirmation record and said custom record data.

1 67. [Original] The system of claim 63, said second
2 logic element further responsive for receiving said custom
3 record data appended to said confirmation record.

1 68. [Original] The system of claim 63, said request
2 being for a default custom confirmation record, and said
3 second logic element further operable for receiving from
4 said server default data in said custom record data.

1 69. [Original] The system of claim 63, said request
2 being for a defined custom confirmation record, said request
3 including a list of one or more predefined information
4 items, said second logic element further operable for
5 receiving from said server client defined data in said
6 custom record data.

1 70. [Original] The system of claim 69, further
2 including a logic element for providing to said server a
3 customer defined exit program for parsing said list to
4 generate said defined data.

1 71. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable
2 by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 processing a client session request received at a server,
5 said method steps comprising:

6 negotiating environment parameters for establishing a
7 connection-oriented connection with said client;

8 inviting said client to submit user variables to said
9 server;

10 responsive to receiving at said server a user variable
11 requesting a custom confirmation record, sending to
12 said client a confirmation record and custom record
13 data enabling said client to engage in subsequent
14 programmable negotiations directly with said server.

1 72. [Original] The program storage device of claim 71,
2 said negotiating, inviting, and sending steps executing
3 within the application layer of a TCP/IP protocol stack.

1 73. [Original] The program storage device of claim 71,
2 said method steps further comprising, responsive to a user
3 variable requesting a confirmation record, sending to said
4 client a confirmation record without said custom record
5 data.

1 74. [Original] The program storage device of claim 71,
2 said confirmation record including a field defining a pass

3 through data length, said pass through data including said
4 confirmation record and said custom record data.

1 75. [Original] The program storage device of claim 71,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of appending
3 said custom record data to said confirmation record.

1 76. [Original] The program storage device of claim 71,
2 said request being for a default custom confirmation record,
3 and said method steps further comprising the step of sending
4 to said client default data in said custom record data.

1 77. [Original] The program storage device of claim 71,
2 said request being for a defined custom confirmation record,
3 said request including a list of one or more predefined
4 information items, and said method steps further comprising
5 the step of sending to said client defined data in said
6 custom record data.

1 78. [Original] The program storage device of claim 77,
2 said sending step including executing a customer defined
3 exit program on said list to generate said defined data.

1 79. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74,

2 said method steps further comprising the step of providing
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying a device
4 allocated by a host server.

1 80. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of providing
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying a terminal or
4 printer device allocated by a host server.

1 81. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of providing
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying an associated
4 device linked to a current session by a host.

1 82. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of providing
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying a physical
4 location for receiving output.

1 83. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of providing
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying system
4 security level and password encryption requirements.

1 84. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of providing
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying another
4 device for retrying a rejected request.

1 85. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of providing
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying a reason for
4 a failed auto-signon request.

1 86. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of providing
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying a reason for
4 denial of session connection request upon system overload
5 and redirection to an alternate time or host.

1 87. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of providing
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying custom
4 information for interpretation by said client.

1 88. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable
2 by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for

4 operating a client to establish a network connection with a
5 server, said method steps comprising:

6 negotiating environment parameters for establishing a
7 connection-oriented connection of said client with said
8 server;

9 receiving at said client from said server an invitation
10 to submit user variables;

11 responsive to sending to said server a user variable
12 requesting a custom confirmation record, receiving at
13 said client from said server a confirmation record and
14 custom record data enabling said client to engage in
15 subsequent programmable negotiations directly with said
16 server.

1 89. [Original] The program storage device of claim 88,
2 said negotiating, inviting, and sending steps executing
3 within the application layer of a TCP/IP protocol stack.

1 90. [Original] The program storage device of claim 88,
2 said method steps further comprising the step, responsive to
3 said invitation to submit user variables, of requesting a

4 confirmation record, and responsive thereto receiving from
5 said server a confirmation record without said custom record
6 data.

1 91. [Original] The program storage device of claim 88,
2 said confirmation record including a field defining a pass
3 through data length, said pass through data including said
4 confirmation record and said custom record data.

1 92. [Original] The program storage device of claim 88,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of receiving
3 said custom record data appended to said confirmation
4 record.

1 93. [Original] The program storage device of claim 88,
2 said request being for a default custom confirmation record,
3 and said method steps further comprising the step of
4 receiving from said server default data in said custom
5 record data.

1 94. [Original] The program storage device of claim 88,
2 said request being for a defined custom confirmation record,
3 said request including a list of one or more predefined
4 information items, said method steps further comprising the

5 step of receiving from said server client defined data in
6 said custom record data.

1 95. [Original] The method of claim 94, further
2 including the step of providing to said server a customer
3 defined exit program for parsing said list to generate said
4 defined data.

1 96. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of receiving
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying a device
4 allocated by a host server.

1 97. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of receiving
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying a terminal or
4 printer device allocated by a host server.

1 98. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of receiving
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying an associated
4 device linked to a current session by a host.

1 99. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91,

2 said method steps further comprising the step of receiving
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying a physical
4 location for receiving output.

1 100. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of receiving
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying system
4 security level and password encryption requirements.

1 101. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of receiving
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying another
4 device for retrying a rejected request.

1 102. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of receiving
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying a reason for
4 a failed auto-signon request.

1 103. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of receiving
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying a reason for
4 denial of session connection request upon system overload
5 and redirection to an alternate time or host.

1 104. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91,
2 said method steps further comprising the step of receiving
3 in said custom record data indicia identifying custom
4 information for interpretation by said client.

1 105. [Currently amended] A computer program product ~~or~~
2 ~~computer program element~~ for operating a server in a network
3 ~~according to method steps~~ comprising:

4 a storage medium;

5 first program instructions for negotiating environment
6 parameters for establishing a connection-oriented
7 connection of said server with a client;

8 second program instructions for inviting said client to
9 submit user variables to said server;

10 third program instructions responsive to said server
11 receiving a user variable requesting a custom
12 confirmation record, for sending to said client a
13 confirmation record and custom record data enabling
14 said client to engage in subsequent programmable

15 negotiations directly with said server; and wherein
16 said first, second, and third program instructions are
17 recorded on said medium.

1 106. [Currently amended] A computer program product ~~or~~
2 ~~computer program element~~ for operating a client in a network
3 ~~according to method steps~~ comprising:

4 a program storage medium;

5 first program instructions for negotiating environment
6 parameters for establishing a connection-oriented
7 connection of said client with ~~said server~~ a server;

8 second program instructions for receiving from said
9 server at said client an invitation to submit user
10 variables;

11 third program instructions responsive to sending to
12 said server a user variable requesting a custom
13 confirmation record, for receiving at said client from
14 said server a confirmation record and custom record
15 data enabling said client to engage in subsequent

16 programmable negotiations directly with said server;
17 and wherein

18 said first, second, and third program instructions are
19 recorded on said medium.